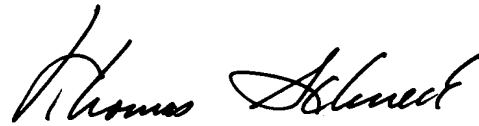


Remarks

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended to correct inadvertencies. Claim 20 has been withdrawn in accordance with the restriction requirement. Claim 21 has been added as a new claim. Consideration of the claims is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas Schneck

Reg. No. 24,518

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signed: Merle P. Garcia
Typed Name: Merle P. Garcia

Date: August 24, 2004

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